

The Hong Kong Telegraph

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March 30, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 61° 3 p.m. 86°
Humidity

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March 30, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 58° 3 p.m. 82°
Humidity

7904 日八十月二

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1918.

大拜禮 號十三月三英港香

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REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

GERMANS MAKE ANOTHER BIG EFFORT.

HEAVY FIGHTING ON FIFTY-FIVE MILE FRONT.

TERRIBLE LOSSES INFLICTED BY BRITISH AND FRENCH.

London, March 28.
A German wireless official message says:—The English again brought up fresh divisions from other fronts. We drove back the enemy north-west of Bapaume from the old crater positions in the direction of Bapaume and Habouerne. The enemy fought fruitlessly with special stubbornness for the re-conquest of Albert. Strong attacks accompanied by tanks sanguinarily broke down on the slopes west of Albert.

Our divisions broke through many points south of the Somme, driving back the Anglo-French into regions untouched by the war since 1914. The Crown Prince's victorious troops, in an uninterrupted attack, advanced sixty kilometres from St. Quentin across the Somme. They pushed forward yesterday, reaching Pierrepont, and captured Montdidier. Our losses, while generally within the normal limits, were heavier at some vital points. It is estimated that 60 or 70 per cent. are slightly wounded. The artillery battles have increased in violence in Lorraine.

Heavy Fighting in Wintry Weather.

London, March 28.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, writing on the evening of March 28, says:—Wintry weather has arrived. There is a break in the east wind, and a sinking glass, threatening snow. Heavy fighting developed in the morning, the Germans launching two attacks against Arras, one on the north and the other south of the Scarpe. The former quickly died down. The latter assumed serious proportions. By eleven, dense German waves under cover of a tremendous bombardment made some advance. We exacted a terrible price from them, as the valley of the Scarpe from Blangy to Boeux affords a good field for the first of machine-guns, while batteries posted on the ridges to the north swept all the terrain.

Further south, we have been attacking. Details have not transpired. Breasting the enemy claims of captured artillery, it transpires that the Germans included all the light artillery mounted in tanks, which were captured. It is noteworthy in this respect that the male tank carries two guns. Thus the claims are heavily discounted.

A Fresh German Attack.

London, March 28.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, says:—There has been heavy fighting all day long along the whole of the British line, from south of the Somme to north-east of Arras, on a battlefield extending fifty-five miles. This morning the enemy, after an intense bombardment covered by a smoke cloud, opened a fresh attack with great strength on a wide front north and south of the Scarpe. He simultaneously delivered a series of powerful attacks all along our line to the south of the Somme. The enemy, in a new sector of the battle east of Arras, succeeded in forcing his way through the out-post line. There was hard fighting all day long in our battle positions. All the assaults were heavily repulsed. Fierce fighting is still proceeding south of the Scarpe. We beat off repeated and determined assaults on Royelles, Moyenne Ville, Ablainze Ville, Baeuquois and Puisseux. The enemy succeeded in forcing his way into Dernancourt for the second time. Our counter-attack drove him out, killing and taking many prisoners. We have been fiercely engaged all day long south of the Somme in the neighbourhood of Arrillers, Vrely and Hamel. Some localities frequently changed hands. There has been bitter fighting, but our positions have been substantially maintained. Heavy fighting continues.

Unpleasant News from French Front.

London, March 28.
The significant French withdrawal in the region of Montdidier, constituting a retirement of eight miles, is unpleasant news, as the Montdidier railway junction is of undoubted importance. On the other hand the French success between Haillvillers and Pontlevaque is a hopeful sign that the enemy advantage around Montdidier may be retrieved.

A Splendid French Counter-Thrust.

London, March 29.
A French communique says:—The enemy is continuing to push with powerful forces in the region of Montdidier. He attempted this morning to extend his gains west and south of Montdidier, but with magnificent dash our troops counter-attacked with the bayonet and ejected the enemy from Courtemarch, Meunil St. Georges and Aseavilliers, which we carried and solidly hold. This advance exceeds two kilometres deep on a front of twelve kilometres. In front of Lassigny, Noyon and south of the Oise, bitter fighting gave the enemy no advantage. Our troops are holding vigorously.

More Tributes to British Troops.

London, March 29.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that the *Nord-deutsche Zeitung* is praising the valour of the British troops and says:—"They have truly not made the German victory easy. Their batteries have fired until the gunners have been shot down; while the infantry has stood the ground firmly and fought hand-to-hand every redoubt and trench. They have defended most stubbornly and no opportunity to counter-attack has been missed. Even the cavalry has resolutely charged German storming battalions." The journal continues to explain why the advance is so slow and says that the German tactics consist of pushing on in a series of wedges, like chessmen. It is confident that this method will be successful.

"Road to Paris Barred."

London, March 29.
Reuter's correspondent at Paris, wiring on March 28, says that on the French side the enemy advance appears to have been stopped. The road to Paris through the Oise Valley is barred. It is thought that the Germans cannot long bear the present rate of sacrifices, and if there is a desire to continue the effort they will find themselves with very diminished reserves in the presence of absolutely intact French armies. The Germans had the initiative in the first great battle, and the Allies will have it in the second, with all the advantages of the choice of moment and the place at which to strike.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

GERMANS MAKE ANOTHER BIG EFFORT.

The Line Still Holds.

London, March 29.
"The line holds" is the essential factor in the situation, despite a considerable German advance in the south, effected by the capture of Montdidier and the extension of the attack in the direction of Arras. The stroke at Montdidier, which is probably aiming at the separation of the Allied armies, is admitted to be a success, because the Amiens-Paris Railway is endangered, but the tactical disposition of experts is to reserve judgment on the ultimate consequences, pending the intervention of Allied reserves. It is considered unlikely that these will be employed merely to pry the enemy gaining ground which has been going on at such a rapid rate. Correspondents at the Front emphasize that British troops are a real factor in the open, have wholly shaken off the cramped feeling of trench warfare and are beginning to understand that the loss of villages and woods is not necessarily of vital consequence.

The situation, indeed, is described as reassuring, the slightest anxiety at Headquarters, where the crisis is considered over. Fresh troops and artillery are coming up steadily and the Army is growing in confidence as in strength. Troops on large parts of the line have not moved from their positions for days, except to throw back masses. With the exception of Montdidier, the Germans have gained little, and still there is no sign of an offensive in other sectors.

The battle is retaining the general character of a huge mass attack on a wide front. It is an attempt to widen the area of advance that the enemy continues his desperate efforts in the North. His losses are not diminishing. Correspondents now estimate that at fifty per cent. They mention the appearance of a Naval Division, which the Germans have hitherto only employed in extreme necessity.

It is significant that a German communique last evening contained an apologetic statement regarding the German losses, evidently intended to allay anxiety. The German newspapers are giving prominence to British valour and warn their readers not to expect swift successes. They declare that hard protracted fighting is necessary to overcome the very strong and most determined enemy. General von Ludendorff is quoted as warning correspondents that railways are torn up and horses exhausted, but ensuring them that every effort will be made to maintain the tempo of the attack.

Meanwhile, opinion in Britain is hardening in favour of the most drastic steps to reinforce the armies, as, though it is expected that America will now accelerate the dispatch of troops, it is recognised that the main duty of holding the gaps depends on Britain.

British Aviation Activity.

London, March 29.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting aviation, says:—Large bodies of our aeroplanes again yesterday carried out low-flying operations. Our aeroplanes dropped over thirty tons of bombs and fired a quarter of a million rounds, inflicting severe casualties and delaying the enemy in bringing up troops and ammunition. In the air fighting, we brought down twenty-four German aircraft and drove down seven uncontrolled. We destroyed two balloons. Nineteen of our machines are missing. It is believed that some have landed in our own lines, but anti-aircraft guns accounted for the greater portion of our casualties.

We continued our night-bombing of Bapaume, Bray and Peronne with the utmost vigour. We dropped over a thousand bombs and fired thousands of rounds at good targets, which were plentiful and easily visible in the moonlight. Our pilots saw bombs bursting in the middle of columns of troops, transport and encampments. Four of our machines are missing.

We dropped over a ton of bombs on Sablon station at Metz on March 27. Good bursts were seen on sidings. We successfully raided Luxembourg Station on March 28. Twenty-one heavy bombs were dropped and several were seen to burst upon objectives. All the machines returned.

Million Troops from America.

London, March 28.
Reuter's correspondent at Washington states:—As regards Mr. Lloyd George's message, which is stimulating America to renewed efforts, it is stated that the Government is straining every resource and confidently hopes to place over a million troops on the Western Front in the present year.

French Admiralty.

London, March 28.
Reuter's Paris correspondent says that M. Clemenceau has telegraphed to Mr. Lloyd George saying:—"France has never more admired British valour and never had greater confidence in the British leaders. We are quiet and strong, and certain of the future."

French Aerial Work.

London, March 28.
A French official message says:—Between the 22nd and the 26th instant our airmen, flying as low as twenty-two yards from the ground, dropped over 50,000 kilogrammes of bombs on convoys, marching columns and massed enemy troops, and also fired thousands of rounds. The enemy suffered terribly. Sixty battle-planes and twenty bombing planes on the 27th instant inflicted terrible losses on enemy masses of infantry, blew up munition dumps and caused great fires. Bombing planes co-operated in attacking railway stations at Metzblons and Thionville. Several most violent explosions were caused at Metzblons.

A French air squadron on the night of 23rd instant dropped three and a half tons of bombs on the Badische Anilin Factory at Ludwigshafen and the principal poison-gas factory in Germany. Forty-two enemy aeroplanes have been brought down.

Anglo-French Co-ordination.

London, March 29.
The *Daily Chronicle* says that an announcement relative to Anglo-French military co-ordination is to be expected almost immediately. An influential role may be assigned to General Foch in connection therewith.

New Proposals.

London, March 29.
The *Daily Express* says that a powerful section of the Government urges the introduction of a new War Power Bill when Parliament re-assembles, including the raising of the age-limit to twenty-four years and fifty, with application to Ireland and the mobilisation of the Volunteers.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

GERMANS MAKE ANOTHER BIG EFFORT.

Enemy Reserves Thrown Back.

London, March 28.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, states:—There were further strong enemy attacks yesterday afternoon and evening at several points north of the Somme. We maintained the positions and also gained ground in places by successful counter-attacks. We captured prisoners and machine-guns. The enemy's casualties were exceedingly heavy. His frequent attacks, pressed with great determination all day long, only gained for him outposts.

After several hours of hand-to-hand fighting, his reserves were then sent forward against our battle positions and everywhere thrown back with great loss. Our machine-guns, artillery and rifle fire did great execution.

South of the Somme there was heavy and continuous fighting until late in the evening. After maintaining the line all day long in face of repeated assaults by superior forces, we withdrew a short distance from our advanced positions.

French Troops Continue Their Successes.

London, March 29.
A French communique states:—The battle continued with violence last evening and part of the night in the region of Montdidier. Despite his repeated counter-attacks, the enemy was unable to drive us out of the villages we captured yesterday. Our troops are continuing their successes. They carried Monchal by storm. Violent engagements occurred on the front at Plessisdecojades, all the enemy attacks against which failed before our indomitable resistance. Prisoners state that the number of bodies found in this part of the battlefield and also in the region of Montdidier confirm that the enemy's losses were extremely heavy, while he has achieved no result.

North of Montdidier, Franco-British troops are victoriously holding the enemy on the line of the River Aves in front of Lanesville, Sire, Benard, Mezières, Mesnilcave and Hamel. Our long range guns caught and dispersed enemy infantry columns and conveyed on the Lion and La Fere Road. There is moderate artillery firing on the remainder of the front.

GREAT SUCCESS IN MESOPOTAMIA.

Capture of Three Thousand Prisoners.

London, March 28.
A Mesopotamia official message states:—We carried out on March 28 a highly successful operation on the Euphrates to the north-west of Hit, leading to the capture or destruction of virtually the entire Turkish force in that area. In the early morning we attacked positions about Khandagh, twenty-two miles to the north-west of Hit, our cavalry, making a wide movement around the Turkish right, establishing itself astride the Aleppo Road in the enemy's rear. By nightfall the main positions were carried in an assault and the enemy's main body, attempting to break to the north-west, were intercepted by the cavalry and repulsed with heavy losses.

So far it is reported that three thousand prisoners have been taken, including the Divisional Commander, two hundred other Turkish officers, a German officer, a few German non-commissioned officers, ten guns, two thousand rifles, many machine-guns and six hundred animals. The remaining fugitives were pursued beyond Haditha, forty-five miles north-west of Hit. Our casualties were very slight.

JAPANESE POLITICS.

London, March 29.
According to a message from New York, a Tokyo telegram states that the Foreign Minister, Baron Motono, has resigned. Baron Uchida, the ex-Ambassador at Petrograd, is succeeding him.

RUSSIAN DEVELOPMENTS.

Recapture of Odessa Denied.

London, March 29.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, a Vienna message denies that the Bolsheviks have re-captured Odessa.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

DEVELOPMENTS IN RUSSIA.

London, March 28.
A message from Petrograd says that desperate fighting is going on around Syvastopol between the Soviet troops and Austro-German detachments. The latest advice states that the Austro-Germans are 50 versts from Tcherinovsk.

Amsterdam, March 28.
The *Voorichs Zeitung* states that the state of anarchy in Ukraine has reached its highest point. The peasants in some districts are exporting the export of corn to Austria with hand-grenades and machine-guns.

Petrograd, March 28.
The Allied Embassies have returned to Russia from Finland. They have issued a statement affirming this is necessary for the Allies in defending their interests, which are seriously compromised by the separate peace, and they announce that they are taking up residence at Vologda, because there is no Central Authority at Petrograd, and for other reasons.

FRENCH SHIPPING RETURNS.

London, March 28.
The French arrivals during the week were 925, and the sailings 981. Of the sailings one vessel was over and five under 1,800 tons. Two were unsuccessfully attacked.

INTRIGUE IN AMERICA.

London, March 28.
A message from New York says:—Jacob Altman, who admitted that his father was a German, has been arrested on a charge of espionage. He confessed that he started the fire which caused the explosion at Jersey City, but claimed that it was accidental. He was regularly employed in the building and dropped a cigarette. (Continued on page 5).

CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the Hong Kong Telegraph.)

THE "TOMBOLA."
(To the Editor of the Hong Kong Telegraph.)

Sir,—"The Tombola" in connection with St. George's Day celebrations is a collection of prizes which will be given to the generous residents for the purpose of promoting a sale of spoils.

These spoils will be on sale from the 15th to the 22nd of April at 3 p.m. and a large proportion of them will contain a prize ticket. War Bond tickets are suitable prizes and some have been given already.

Yours etc.

"SPILLS"

Hongkong, March 30, 1918.

DAY BY DAY.

Spotted Fever.

For the twenty-four hours ended March 28, there were fifteen cases of spotted fever notified, with 10 deaths, while for the twenty-four hours ended March 27, there were twelve cases and five deaths.

Stolen Electric Bulb.

For stealing an electric bulb from a stairway, in the early hours of this morning, Mr. Wood sentenced a Chinese, who pleaded guilty to the theft, to six weeks' hard labour.

A Tall Story.

Walking down a street near the Central Market, a Chinese saw a number of oranges, according to the story told at the Magistracy this morning. He looked round and, with his customary honesty, said:—"Who do these oranges belong to?" He replied, so he was told, "I don't know." Unfortunately for him, he was a constable and this morning he was sent to prison for three weeks.

Easter Vacation.

The Office of the Supreme Court will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. during the Easter Vacation, except on Public and General Holidays, when the Court will be entirely closed. It is, however, to the provision of Section 1 of the Supreme Court Vacations Ordinance, 1893, as amended, that the Original Bench of the Eastern District Court will be open on the 29th March, 30th March and 31st March (inclusive).

Settlement of Russo-Japanese Accounts.

It is impossible in the state of affairs to conduct negotiations with Russia for the settlement of accounts outstanding on goods supplied by Japan to Russia, the Japanese Government has decided (says the *Japan Chronicle*) to make the payments provisionally on behalf of the Russian Government, as the result of a petition by the Russo-Japanese Trade Association. The Japanese merchants concerned have received instructions from the Finance Department to submit particulars of their Russian accounts. The Government payment is only in regard to goods the delivery of which has been completed or for goods supplied in payment for goods supplied, excluding account on consignment, delivery of which has not been completed or for goods acquired in speculation. It is said that the exchange rate at which the Japanese Government will make payment is 225 roubles per £100.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—2.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

TOMORROW.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—2.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

GENERAL NEWS.

An Escape from Germany.
Mr. Wash, of Batterknowle, County Durham, has received a cable message from his son, Private Wash, Durham Light Infantry, who was taken prisoner by the Germans in May 1915, stating that he has escaped. Private Wash was formerly assistant master at Batterknowle Schools.

Five-Cent Stamp Sold for \$335.
Philadelphia, February 6.—A five-cent postage stamp issued in 1845 by Robert H. Norris, a New York postmaster, was sold at auction here last night for \$335. It was purchased by a Western stamp collector. The stamp is declared to be a fine specimen and is one of a half dozen or original envelopes in existence.

Vicar and Food Sportsmanship.
For the benefit of munition workers employed in his district a Middlesex vicar has posted up the following notice:—"If you don't live in—be good sportsmen and don't buy, or get bought for you, butter, margarine, tea and other rarities in—It is not fair to local folks, who have to go without if you do. Let us all bear our burdens equally."

Cork Corporation and Kuno Meyer.

Cork Corporation by fifteen votes to nine rejected a Sinn Féin motion to restore the name of Dr. Kuno Meyer, a German professor, to the list of City Freemen. Previous to the outbreak of war Professor Meyer was enrolled a Freeman in consideration of his services to the Gaelic League.

Over \$100 Spent to Get £40.
It was stated at a meeting of Ascot Parish Council that when arbitrations were demanded by claimants against local authorities the costs always fell on the ratepayers, and the claimants ran no risk of having to pay even their own costs. At an arbitration concerning the local sewerage works the award was £700 and the costs £500, while in a similar case where the award was £40 the costs exceeded this amount by nearly £100.

Lord Mayor Superintends War Bond Draw.

The Lord Mayor of London superintended the draw for the winners of Messrs. Harrods War Bond Prize Scheme. He congratulated the firm on the success of their patriotic enterprise, and pointed out that every penny of the expenses involved, in addition to the gift of 1,500 guineas, had been borne by them. The subscriptions amounted to nearly £3,000,000. Two little girls, the twin daughters of Sheriff Blades, assisted the Lord Mayor in making the draw, and a crimson-robed toastmaster repeated the winning numbers.

Verdun Relics for the Army.

General Guillaumat and the Commandant at Verdun have presented the War Museum of the British Army several relics in connection with the Verdun defence. There is the battered trumpet which sounded the charge which drove back the Germans before Fort Vaux, the gallant trumpet being slain; the first mounted trench mortar captured from the enemy, a captured pickaxe from the Citadel inscribed with the famous legend "On Ne Passe Pas"; a British Bed Badge which was suspended with the French colours in the Citadel throughout the fighting; helmets, shell-cases, a huge howitzer remnant, and other objects.

Returns and Finds Wife.

Before the Sittingbourne Bench recently, Lucy Bushell, wife of a bombardier of the R.G.A., was charged with bigamy. The bombardier has been serving in France for three years, and when he returned on leave a few days ago, he called at the house where his wife had been lodging. Asking for "Lou," he was told that the only "Lou" known there was "Miss Lucy Edwards," who had been married a few days previously, and had gone to live again. Proceeding there he found that his wife and her "husband" were acting as caretakers of a Sailors' Welcome at Sittingbourne. Evidence was given of the first marriage at Southampton and the second at William Edward Briggs, of Ratham, on November 23 last, and the woman was remanded in custody.

NOTICES.

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GENERAL NEWS.

Abolition of Conscription.
The Rome correspondent of the Chicago Daily News interviewed Cardinal Gasparri, who said the Vatican favours the abolition of conscription after the war, this being the only method of limiting armaments. Voluntary service was fully effective in peace times. Evidence of this was found in the fact that England, Canada, and Australia relied wholly upon volunteers in peace time, but the war had compelled England and America to adopt conscription, as volunteers were insufficient to meet the new military needs.

Flew from France to Brother's Funeral.

An officer attached to the R.F.C., Lieutenant Carrington Manuel, met his death at an Essex aerodrome. "Manuel," who was a Canadian, was coming down after a fight when his machine got into a spin and crashed to the ground. It was stated at the inquest when a verdict of accidental death was returned, that a brother of Lieutenant Manuel, in the R.N.A.S., after flying from France to the funeral, learned that he had been awarded the D.S.C., and promoted Flight Commander for conspicuous gallantry.

R.N.A.S. Uniform Changes.
The Admiralty has decided that officers (other than of the R.N., R.N.R., Army or R.M.) who are graded as observer officers in the R.N.A.S. shall wear the uniform of their rank in the military branch of the R.N., except that the anchor on buttons, cap, badge, epaulettes, and sword belt will be replaced by a gilt badge consisting of a "C" with wings, and shall wear, in addition, a "O" with wings on each sleeve above the distinction line, and on each shoulder strap.

Labour Men Honoured.

Mr. Stephen Walsh, Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board, at Wigton publicly presented Alderman John O'Connell, miners' objector, with an illuminated address and national war hat for £50, to

celebrate his silver jubilee as first workman magistrate. Mrs. O'Connell received a gold watch and chain. Bristol's Lord Mayor, Alderman Frank Sheppard, has been presented with a cheque by the Boot and Shoe Trade Union and Dockers' Union, as the first Labour Lord Mayor of the city. The Lady Mayoress received a silver tea and coffee service.

NOTICES.

FOOTBALL.

THE CLUB GROUND,
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South China Athletic
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Stand 50 cents. Front 50 Seats cent

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POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW
1918.

THE above Show will be held
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Entrance fees for Dogs and/or
Cats \$2 each exhibit.

No entrance fee for Poultry or
Pigeons.

Entry forms and a specimen
cage for exhibiting Poultry are
now available.

Entries close to the Undersigned
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G. W. GEGG.

Hon. Secretary & Treasurer.

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Hongkong, 26th March, 1918.

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Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C. 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

BIRTH.

LANG.—On the 29th March, at 98, The Peak, the wife of A. O. Lang of a son.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1918.

THE SITUATION IN RUSSIA.

While in France affairs are still of paramount interest, the situation in Russia is now of such a nature that it certainly warrants careful consideration. From the latest news to hand from Russia it would appear that remarkable changes are being effected—changes, indeed, of such a character as to lead one to conclude that it is not improbable that the national spirit of Russia, which has been at such a low ebb of late, may now revive and even at this late hour place the Russian people in the position which they ought to occupy. France, which, despite Russia's deplorable defection, has all along remained in close touch with her old Ally, at whose call she went to war, has been approached by M. Trotsky, on behalf of the Bolsheviks, to help Russia to organize her army. The appeal has been made to the French Military Mission, a body which, we learn, consists of five hundred officers and is at present in Russia, doubtless with the object of assisting Russia to withstand the enemy as far as possible and also to bring about that national unity which is essential if Russia is to be of any further service in the great struggle of Democracy, as represented chiefly by Great Britain, France, Italy, the United States, and Belgium, against Autocracy represented by Germany, Austria, and Turkey.

That such a Mission, if the opportunity presented itself, would do good work, is evident from what is now taking place, for it is very likely to be the case that while the initiative in this latest phase of the Russian situation seems to have been taken by the Bolshevik leader it may likewise be concluded that the Mission itself had no little part in it. Be that as it may, it is certain that good work has been done, and that as a consequence there is some ground for believing that the spirit of the Russian nation, so much tried of late by chaos within and a ruthless tyranny without, has been revived. Odesa has been re-taken by those who, in the present confused state of affairs, seem to have the true welfare of Russia and the Russian people at heart; and who, doubtless, aided by the French Military Mission, have been able to continue fighting despite the great difficulties opposing them. They seem to be determined to show that while serious defections have taken place in certain provinces of Russia, in acquiescing in the demands of Germany, yet the Russian nation is still sound at heart and only requires good guidance to right itself. This spirit seems to be present in the determination of the Bolsheviks to oppose the invaders and those of their countrymen who have fallen a prey to the blandishments and tyranny of the Germans. France, it is gratifying to read, is willing to assist in the reorganization of Russia's army, conditional on the Army being willing to fight the enemy. Doubtless this will be readily agreed to. Meantime the Bolsheviks seem to be doing their utmost to arouse in the Russian people a spirit by which they will be able to materially help themselves. The aim is to organize the "Red Army." With this in view and, doubtless, also additional military aims, it is stated that the Bolsheviks are about to issue a Decree by which universal service will be enforced. Further good news comes to the effect that the Russian Black Sea Fleet is in action on the side of the Bolsheviks.

As Reuters Agency states, all this seems to imply a revival of the military spirit against both the Central Powers and those pusillanimous provinces that have so far sided with Germany's outrageous terms. All along we have been of opinion that Russia's vast population could not possibly be coerced into such a humiliating position, unworthy of a nation which, when all is said, has played no mean part in the affairs of Europe. It is not too late for the Russians to assert their nationality; first, by reorganizing their defensive forces; secondly, by setting their house in order; and, thirdly, by doing in every way possible their allies in the tremendous struggle against the common enemy.

Postal Matters.

We are sure that the public will appreciate the circumstance that the authorities have now made it possible for us to resume the Post Office notifications of outgoing mails. For all too long a time residents have been kept completely in the dark as far as the best time for posting is concerned, and we can only hope that the present system will be continued indefinitely now that it has been revived. In Singapore, we understand, the postal authorities have a most excellent method in operation, which is much to the benefit of business men. At the beginning of every month, the mails for England during the succeeding four weeks are alphabetically designated, in rotation—the first one due for departure being described as "A. Mail," the second "B. Mail" and so on. The advantage of this system is that the business man can ensure his original and duplicates going by different mails, by marking the envelopes in the one case "A. Mail" and in the other "B. Mail" etc. Thus, although the duplicate may be posted at the same time as the original, it is not sent off till the succeeding mail, the postal authorities holding it back in accordance with the instructions on the envelope. This is a most simple plan, and one which might well be copied by the authorities here.

German Lies.

However serious the German offensive operations in France may have been during the past week, there cannot be the slightest doubt that the enemy has been indulging in the most glaring exaggerations of what has been accomplished. It is probably in the matter of aviation reports that he has shown his greatest capacity for falsehood. One of the German statements says that during a few days of the fighting no fewer than ninety-three Allied aeroplanes were brought down, but inasmuch as British and French reports have every day stated the number of losses, and that the total is far behind the German figure, we may safely conclude that the enemy has been exercising his imagination to no small extent. On the other hand, there is ample evidence to show that the Germans have been hopelessly beaten in the aerial operations which have marked the battle, for time and again the Allied airmen have had the skies practically to themselves, with terrible results to enemy masses of troops. We are, in fact, told that two Divisions on the way to the battle-front were almost totally annihilated by a hundred French machines before they had had an opportunity of firing a single shot. Facts like these are far more satisfying than German lies, served up for the consumption of a gullible public upon whose credulity the German High Command is making huge calls.

Heroes All.

"I saw a small party to-day, so weary that they could hardly walk, holding hands like tired children and leaning against each other like drunken men, but holding up their heads gamely, showing no kind of dismay." So writes Mr. Philip Gibbs of British soldiers who for six days and nights had been fighting as never men fought before. Surely no one can read his glorious tribute to these hardy, war-worn heroes, battling against most terrible odds without feeling an overwhelming thrill of pride at the unquenchable spirit of the men of our new Army, who are so magnificently perpetuating the traditions of the "Old Contemptibles." We can have small idea of what these gallant lads have gone through—it is beyond comprehension. But we can imagine them fighting, fighting, and fighting all the time, with jaws set and hearts steeled to face every call that human endurance could bear. They are the stuff of which men are made—Britishers whose poor bodily frames may be broken in battle, but whose spirit never allows a thought of defeat to enter their minds. They are the lads who are fighting and dying for us who are not called upon to have a part in the actual struggle. Glorious history they are making. And we are proud of them.

DAY BY DAY.

NOTHING GOOD CAN BE DONE WITHOUT INTENSE FEELING.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the 18th birthday of H. R. H. Prince Henry.

Peak Sunday School.
We are asked to state that Sunday School will be held in the Peak School at 4.30 p.m. on Easter Sunday.

To Lady Golfers.
We are asked to state that ladies can play golf over the Happy Valley Course on Monday afternoon, as well as Sunday afternoon.

Opium Smugglers.
Before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, five Chinese were charged with being in unlawful possession of raw opium in varying amounts to 10½ lb. Evidence was given by Inspector Wildin, who said defendants arrived from Japan yesterday and the opium was found in their possession. His Worship inflicted fines which totalled \$825.

Athletics.
Mr. A. H. Swan, of Shanghai, Secretary for China for the Far Eastern Athletic Games, is at present in the Colony and will present the medals won at Tokyo last year by the Hongkong athletes, at the Chinese Y.M.C.A. on Monday, the 1st April. There will be an exhibition game of Volley Ball at 4 p.m. on the Association grounds in Bridge Street, between two picked teams. The public is invited to witness this match. The medals will be given out at the close of the match.

Golf Club Theft.
A Chinese pleaded guilty, before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, to a charge of stealing some door fittings from the Golf Club at Happy Valley. Defendant said he had no food and could get no work. Inspector Sim said the man was one of those unfortunate coolies who could not find work. Defendant had taken the Police to the Club and shown them where he stole the fittings from. A lot of material had been stolen from the premises. His Worship sentenced defendant to prison for 21 days' hard labour.

Board of Arbitration.
The Board of Arbitration appointed to determine the amount of compensation to be paid in respect of the resumption of Lot No. 2309 in Survey District IV is constituted as follows:—His Honour the Chief Justice (Chairman), Mr. Charles Henry Gale (appointed by His Excellency the Governor) and Tang Kam-Lom (nominated by the owner). It is further notified that a meeting of the Board will be held at the Courts of Justice, on Saturday, the 6th day of April, at 10 a.m.

Alice Memorial Hospital.
The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—Dairy Farm Co., Ltd., \$100; Sir Paul Oscher, O.M.G., \$50; Canadian Pacific Ocean Services Co., Ltd., \$50; Gibb, Livingston and Co., \$50; Standard Oil Co. of New York, \$50; A. S. Watson and Co., Ltd., \$50; A. F. Aroulli, \$25; Benjamin and Potts, \$25; British American Tobacco Co., \$25; Cawajee Palanji and Co., \$25; Lane Crawford and Co., \$25; N. J. Shabb, \$25; Sir Eliu Kadoorie, \$25; Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., \$20.

A Shaken Law-Breaker.
Before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, a Chinese was charged with attempting to export 350 silver dollars out of the Colony without first having received a permit to do so. Evidence was given by a Chinese constable to the effect that when he was on duty on the Ship Lee what he saw defendant about to board the s.s. Shan Lee, bound for Yachow. He searched him and found the money concealed on his person. Defendant said he had only just arrived in the Colony and did not know the law. He only went to the wharf to see if it was going to Canton that evening. The constable who made the arrest said that when he was taking defendant to the station, he began to shake. A fine of \$1,000 was imposed and the \$350 confiscated.

GOOD FRIDAY MUSIC.

"Elijah" Selections at the Cathedral.

St. John's Cathedral was literally picked last evening, when various selections from Mendelssohn's oratorio "Elijah" were rendered by a special choir of local ladies and gentlemen. Good Friday evening has been marked in Hongkong for many years past by an event of this nature, and though portions of this great work have been rendered before, many of the solos and choruses given last night were heard here for the first time. Residents of the Colony owe no little debt to Mr. D. M. Fallon, F.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., the Cathedral organist, who undertakes the organising of these occasions, and the very large body of people who listened to last evening's music were given a really enjoyable evening. Seeing that the collection was in aid of the Fund for Crippled Soldiers and Sailors, it was extremely gratifying to see such a large gathering.

Dealing with the work of the chorus, it has to be frankly stated that great credit is due to those responsible for the training, for the singers seemed to be thoroughly acquainted with all the intricacies of the composition and gave them with due regard to expression. The attack was invariably good, and, generally speaking, the singing was well balanced, though one felt at times that the bass was a little over-powering against so small a body of contraltos. But it would be carping to criticise, and only praise can be bestowed. It is not possible to refer to all the choruses in detail, but "Thanks be to God," and "Holy Holy, Holy" were items particularly well sung.

Of the soloists, it is only possible to refer generally, for the majority of the evening was taken up with individual work. None will think it invidious to mention the very fine solo of Mrs. Mariel, "Wee unto them." The Colony has in Mrs. Mariel a fine contralto singer. Miss Scott, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Ball and Mrs. Johnstone were the other lady soloists and all gave most enjoyable selections. Other solos were taken by Mr. H. E. Mariel, the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, and Mr. H. J. E. Jones, the first-named bearing the greater part of the work. It should be mentioned that the double quartet "Holy, Holy, Holy" was given by Miss Scott, Miss Cree, Mrs. Mariel, Mrs. Stubbings, Mrs. Johnstone, Mrs. Walton, Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Lyle.

The full chorus was as follows:—Mrs. Bentley, Mrs. W. E. Bell, Mrs. Whitefield, Miss Cree, Miss Hastings, Mrs. Bevington, Miss Hansen, Mrs. Walton, Miss Goodall, Miss Goggin, Miss Holloway, Miss Jack, Mrs. Leach, Miss B. Jennings, Mrs. Johnstone, Miss Lillie, Miss Steadman, Miss Lintott, Miss Dorothy May, Miss B. Mow, Miss L. Neave, Mrs. Miller, Miss J. Rodgers, Mrs. Stringer, Miss Stone, Miss Percy, Mrs. Stark, Miss Scott, Miss O. Scott, Mrs. Wynne, Mrs. Cousins, Miss Cooper, Mrs. Goodall, Mrs. Lyle, Mrs. W. J. Hill, Mrs. Mariel, Mrs. Stubbings, Masters Martin, Talbot, Thornhill, Holloway, Deane, Rolitt, Youngs, Whitefield, Brown and Howell; Messrs. G. Davis, H. McTavish, H. Butler, D. M. Goodall, J. Rodgers, A. Gregory, H. Hayward, G. Holloway, T. Hitt, B. J. E. Jones, G. L. Platt, W. Q. Collins, V. Stannard, F. Schnepel, Hon. Mr. C. Severn, O. M. G., J. Bryant, E. A. Bidden, O. B. Bird, A. E. Ballock, W. Charters, F. Waine, W. H. Edmonds, W. Whitefield, G. H. Haskett, G. Mason, S. Rollet, S. Paul, W. H. Smith, L. Stringer, Jewsbury, H. Smith, and F. Hall.

The choruses numbers were very ably conducted by Mr. J. V. White and Mr. D. M. Fallon presided at the organ in really masterful manner. The evening concluded by the singing of the National Anthem.

"At Home" Cancelled.
The "At Home" which was to have been held on board H.M.S. Tamar on April 6 has been cancelled.

1893.

HONGKONG TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

(Compiled from the "Hongkong Telegraph" files for the week ending April 6, 1893.)

The Dollar.
March 30.—The rate of the dollar on demand to-day is 2/8 3/4.

No Danger!
April 4.—The next meeting of the members of the "Odd Volume" will be held at the Hongkong Hotel to-morrow evening at 9 p.m. Subject: "Eastern v. Western Life." Animated discussion sure, but no danger anticipated.

A Complaint.
April 4.—A correspondent writes:—I wonder who it is allowed that any enterprising Chinese coolie who wishes to start a "machine shop" in the middle of Hongkong has simply to hire a room large enough to hold a forge and lathe, and use the open street for his workshop. Although I live as near as possible to the centre of the city, I have the misfortune to have three such establishments in the same street which is there by rendered a modern edition of Dante's *Inferno*. Night and day the whole thoroughfare is filled with noisy, dirty coolies and engineering plant, hard at work in the roadway, so that I often have to wait some time for a lull in the din before I can speak to anybody. In ridiculous contrast to this unchecked nuisance, I have often seen industrious policemen chasing street hawkers and cake sellers dodging in and out among the boilers and parts of machinery, only because the poor men have "obstructed" the street with a basket of peanuts or oranges! It would be interesting to know if a European, anxious to get plenty of warehouse room and space for workmen, without paying rent, would be allowed to carry on an *ad hoc* establishment all over the roadway like these Chinese.

School Theatricals.
April 5.—For the first time in the history of the Colony, a representation of one of Shakespeare's plays has been put before the public by school boys. The pupils of High School, reading up the subjects for the Oxford Local Examination, had to study "The Tempest," and by their own request arrangements were made for a representation of Acts II and III, which was successfully accomplished yesterday, when some two hundred persons were attracted by this altogether novel spectacle.

East or West?
April 6.—At the meeting of the "Job Lots" last night, after an animated though not interesting discussion, it was decided by a majority of Eastern-born persons that life in the West is better than life in the East. They had better go at once.

OFFICIAL NIGHTS.

The following table shows the standard time at which Official Night ends and begins during the month of April, 1918:—

Date.	Ends.	Begins.
Apr. 1st.	8.06 a.m.	6.48 p.m.
" 2nd.	8.04	6.50
" 3rd.	8.03	6.50
" 4th.	8.02	6.51
" 5th.	8.01	6.51
" 6th.	8.01	6.51
" 7th.	8.00	6.51
" 8th.	8.00	6.51
" 9th.	8.00	6.52
" 10th.	8.00	6.53
" 11th.	8.00	6.53
" 12th.	8.00	6.53
" 13th.	8.00	6.54
" 14th.	8.00	6.54
" 15th.	8.00	6.54
" 16th.	8.00	6.54
" 17th.	8.00	6.54
" 18th.	8.00	6.54
" 19th.	8.00	6.55
" 20th.	8.00	6.55
" 21st.	8.00	6.57
" 22nd.	8.00	6.57
" 23rd.	8.00	6.57
" 24th.	8.00	6.57
" 25th.	8.00	6.57
" 26th.	8.00	6.58
" 27th.	8.00	6.58
" 28th.	8.00	6.59
" 29th.	8.00	6.59
" 30th.	8.00	6.59

SHARE REPORT.

Messrs. Benjamin & Potts, in their share report dated Thursday, the 28th March, state:—Since our last report of the 22nd instant, the March Settlement has been satisfactorily negotiated and in spite of a fairly heavy liquidation for that account rates have on the whole kept up well. Exchange has declined somewhat, but investment stocks have not on the whole been affected by the decline.

Shanghai market has again been active for Cotton shares and Shanghai Docks and a good deal of business has been done at higher rates than last week.

The rubber market in Singapore remains about the same. The following are to-day's cable quotations:—

Banks.—After sales at \$610 the rate declined to \$605 and at this price some business was put through. This stock is a little steadier on account of the weaker exchange at the close.

Marine & Fire Insurance.—With the exception of sales of Unions at \$800 we have no business to report. Canton have buyers at \$320 and Yangtze are enquired for in the North at \$217 1/2 Ex. 72. Hongkong Fire is nominal at \$203 ex the dividend of \$27 paid on the 27th instant. China Fire have buyers at \$133 and North China could also be placed at \$120.

Shipping.—Deferred Indoe, owing to liquidation for the Settlement, declined to \$150, at which rate, and at \$151, a good many shares changed hands. The market is steady at the latter quotation. Preferred Indoe have buyers at \$321. Douglas after sales at \$77 dropped to a selling quotation of \$74 and no business is reported. Steamboats have been done at \$18 1/2 and \$19 and closed with buyers offering the latter price. Star Ferries are still on offer at \$28.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks were again placed during the week at \$13 1/2 and there are buyers now at \$12 1/2 ex the dividend of \$9 paid on the 26th instant. Shanghai Docks have advanced rapidly all this week; the cash rate now being \$12. 102 1/2 business having been done for June at \$12. 107 and \$12. 108. The market closes with a strong demand. Kowloon Wharves have changed hands at \$83 and \$83 1/2 and close with buyers offering \$82 1/2.

Land, Hotels & Buildings.—Humphreys Estates have been sold at \$6, but with this exception no sales under this heading are reported. There are buyers of Central Estates at \$30, Hotels at \$87 1/2 and Lands at \$34, whilst Kowloon Lands at \$27 and West Point at \$73 are both nominal.

Oils & Mining.—Langkate have been placed at \$14 1/2 and buyers in the North are offering \$14. Ryaba have sellers at \$3. Kailans are still wanted at 4 1/2. Ural Caspian remain nominal at 20 1/2, and Shells are quoted 120 1/2 buyers.

Electric Companies.—Hongkong Electric are wanted at \$48 1/2 and probably more will be paid. China Lights have buyers at \$4. Low Level Trams after sales at \$8 20 have sellers at this rate.

Cotton Mills.—A good business has been done in all Cotton shares and the market keeps strong at the following quotations:—Shanghai Cottons at \$14. 140, Ewee at \$14. 174, Kung Yik at \$14. 18, Yangtze at \$14. 935 and Orientals at \$14. 43, all buyers.

Miscellaneous.—Cements have been done at \$7 ex the dividend of 80 cents paid on the 25th instant. Loss are nominal at \$26 ex the dividend of \$9 paid to-day. Dairy Farms are wanted at \$29, Bopes have sellers at \$29 1/2 and there are buyers of China Borneo at \$29. Wilsons at \$51 and Powell at \$36. There are sellers of Peak Trams (Ord.) at \$8 and Steam Landries at \$4. Hongkong Street Foundries are nominal at \$10 and Union at \$10. 10 1/2. Settlement Drys at \$10. 20th April (Friday), 20 a day (Wednesday), 27th June (Thursday) and 29th July (Monday).

Exchange.—The opening T.T. rate on London to-day is 3/0 3/4 and on Singapore 13 7/8. But the Bank's 3 1/4 buyers rate on Shanghai is 10 1/2.

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	*Aki Maru T. 12,500	(SAT., 20th Apr. at 11 a.m.)
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	*Tango Maru T. 13,500	(SAT., 13th May at 11 a.m.)
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Telephone No. 215. General Managers.

SHIPPING NEWS.

Yangtze Rates.

The large companies operating on the Yangtze, the "China Navigation Co., Indo-China S. N. Co., China Merchants S. N. Co. and Nishin Kisen Kaisha have agreed to raise the freights on the river by 25 per cent. Passenger rates have been advanced a similar amount the return fare to Hankow, which was before \$60, being now \$75.

Prize Court.

In an action on behalf of the Crown for the condemnation of £1,329 6s. 2d.—the net proceeds of sale of a part-cargo of 2,800 bags of sesamum seed carried in the British steamship "Glenroy," of the Glen Line, the Solicitor-General stated that the cargo was shipped before the war at Shanghai by Schabel, Gaumer & Co., and was consigned to Antwerp and Rotterdam to order. The vessel was diverted to London, where she arrived on August 19, 1914. The seed was unclaimed, and as it was of a perishable nature, it was sold by the shipowners for account of whom it might concern. The President, in giving judgment, condemned to the Crown the sum of £1,329 6s. 2d., the net proceeds of goods which had been subject to seizure as prize.

Toronto as a Shipbuilding Centre.

An additional industry that will give employment to about 2,500 men, has been secured for the city of Toronto, says the "Journal of Commerce." Arrangements have been completed for leasing a large site on the water front within the harbour, which contains about 150 acres, and upon which will be constructed buildings, slips and dry docks. Preliminary work will be commenced at an early date. The acquisition of this industry for Toronto is one of the achievements of a select committee of business men who are quietly preparing to meet after war conditions. There is every possibility of the Port of Toronto becoming one of the largest shipbuilding centres on the Great Lakes.

Standard Water-tube Boilers.

The standard water-tube boilers, designed by the United States Shipping Board, for the 3,500-ton vessels of the emergency fleet, are of the cross-drum type, having straight tubes expanded into steel-plate headers. The width of the boiler is 13ft. 4 1/2 in., with a height to centre of steam drum, 11ft. 5 1/2 in., and a depth, 8ft. 10in. The heating surface total is 2,544 sq. ft.; viz., tubes, 2,452 sq. ft.; front head, 33 sq. ft.; back head, 18 sq. ft.; drum, 21 sq. ft. The grate is 6ft. 6in. long by 11ft. 11in. wide; area, 77.4 sq. ft. giving ratio of heating surface to grate area of 33 to 1. The boilers are made for 200lb. pressure, and under forced draught evaporate 150,000lb. of water per hour, with feed of 200 deg. Fahr., and a combustion rate of 20lb. coal per square foot of grate per hour.

R.N.R. Men Honoured.

The Merchant Marine Service Association has issued a report which indicates the services the R.N.R.—which, of course, recruited from the Merchant Service—has rendered during the past year. One Liverpool shipmaster has been created a C.B., and three lieutenants. R.N.R. have received the Victoria Cross. Fifty-two officers have been appointed Companions of the Distinguished Service Order; 167 have received the D.S.O.; and 101 have been mentioned in Despatches. Other honours have been bestowed in recognition of their deeds of heroism by our Allies: the Board of Trade and the Royal Humane Society. The men who are engaged in the more prosaic work of simply carrying on, have also received the hallmark of official recognition. During the past year three shipmasters have been appointed Companions of the Distinguished Service Order, and three have received the Bar to the D.S.O. Sixty-nine masters and officers have been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross; 11 have been commended for Good Service; and shipmasters have been awarded the French Croix de Guerre, and three the Serbian Order of the White Eagle (Fifth Class); six masters and one officer have been decorated with the Albert Medal for conspicuous service rendered while their ships were at sea, and one master has received the Medal and Diploma of the Shipping Victoria.

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EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 5.)

STRUGGLE IN FRANCE.

Thrilling German Gains.

London, March 28.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters, telegraphing on the 28th inst., states:—During the past 24 hours the Germans have made only a comparatively trifling gain, as a result of numerous masked attacks practically all along our front, whilst we may claim several distinct local successes either in completely repulsing the enemy's blows or wresting back their gains by counter-attack. Although the German High Command continues to use up his infantry with ruthless prodigality, I believe that the general pressure is momentarily less determined. This may partly be attributable to the enemy waiting to bring up heavy artillery preparatory to another great effort, and partly to exhaustion. Needless to say, we are taking every advantage of the relative lull. An intelligent prisoner of a Guards Division states that the German offensive will continue to be pushed until it is stopped by our resistance. Whilst this may sound a platitude, it does suggest the expectation of being stopped. Various enemy and neutral War Correspondents are dwelling upon the wonderful feats of the Sturmabteilung, or storming corps, and Sturmwagen, or tanks, but I can learn nothing of their appearance anywhere on our front. Most, if not all, of the hundred British tanks the enemy claims to have captured were systematically rendered worthless before being abandoned. Meanwhile, the enemy continues to bring in troops from far and near to replenish his reserves, and along wide stretches the German front is held by a mere screen of troops. Hindenburg is making his great gamble upon the present battle-front, but the term should not be used disparagingly, since all battles are gambles, and all great leaders have been daring military gamblers.

The latest news is that there was heavy fighting during the night near Rossignol Wood, and that at one period the Germans made some advance, but were driven back with bombs and bayonets. There was fierce fighting also near Beaumont Hamel and in the neighbourhood of Sailly Lorette. There is some obscurity regarding what is happening in the great storm centre farther south, but as it is reported the situation is well in hand, there is no cause for anxiety.

A German Report.

London, March 28.

A wireless German official report states: In an attack between the Somme and the Ancre we captured villages, which were toughly defended.

Bulgarians Expected.

Amsterdam, March 28.

The Berlin newspapers forebode the early participation of Bulgarian troops in the Western Front offensive.

Violent German Attacks.

London, March 28.

A French communique states:—The Germans are throwing into the battle new, fresh troops. There were attacks to-day with redoubled violence east of Montdidier. Our troops several times, with admirable tenacity, arrested the enemy's onslaughts, but he succeeded in progressing owing to his marked numerical superiority. Equally powerful attacks in the regions of Lassigny and Noyon were completely repulsed, and broke before the heroic resistance of our regiments.

French Confidence.

London, March 28.

Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing on the evening of the 28th inst., says:—The men are convinced that the Germans will infallibly be beaten if everyone gives of his best. The French are solidly established along the south of the Oise and their guns command every bridge. The correspondent declares that the rate of the German wastage cannot be maintained for many days. The French have repeatedly fallen back to their next position, because they had used up all their ammunition firing into the dense masses. He instances how the Courmiers on the 24th inst. were compelled to break off the fight because their machine-guns were red-hot and the carriers were unable to keep pace with the requirements. One gunner said he could have used 50,000 rounds advantageously.

A Tremendous Thrust.

London, March 28.

Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, wiring on the evening of the 27th inst., says:—The tremendous impetus of the thrust towards Amiens shows no signs of weakening, but the wastage in seven days of such fighting is beginning to tell. This is especially true of the push down the Oise Valley, which, for the last three days, has been held within gunshot of Noyon, despite repeated efforts to break the bar which the French army has thrown across the Valley. Around Lassigny, the scene of the bloodiest fighting in 1914, another fierce battle raged to-day, ending in the repulse of the enemy. There was a further withdrawal in the region of Montdidier before heavy pressure, but although unpalatable, it does not prejudice the issue. A mere fraction of the French army so far has been engaged. On the other hand, the Germans have flung in an important part of their available reserves. The moment the present battle reaches a point of exhaustion another might begin in which the initiative will be with us. In that battle the French reserves should prove a decisive factor.

The German success has hitherto been gained by methods which, however effective, cannot be long sustained by any army. The attacking troops, which were brought up during a short heavy bombardment, in which gas-shells were profusely used, are exhausted to a great depth before the front of attack. The first assaulting division reaches its objective line regardless of losses, and inlets of resistance are left behind to be subsequently dealt with. As soon as the first assaulters are installed in the new line they open a tremendously intense rifle, machine-gun and automatic fire at long range on the second line of objectives. Under cover of this barrage of bullets, which is stiffened by numerous 37-millimetre portable guns, and which is intended to cause havoc among their opponents' reserves two thousand yards away, the second division, passing through the first takes up a line in advance thereof and opens a similar small-arm bombardment on the opponents' troops still further back. The third division, follows and repeats the process. Another and another follow until the final objective is gained or the attack is repulsed. The essential feature of these new methods is the immense losses entailed upon the attacking force, losses which perhaps alone but a Government not bound by public opinion could afford to demand of its armies. The Germans in these attacks are using a new type of low-built 77-millimetre field-gun, which is moved as easily as a mountain-gun and accompanies the infantry advance.

What the Airmen are Doing.

Paris, March 28.

Aviators are taking a remarkable part in the battle. Squadrons and groups of squadrons drove off enemy machines and attacked marching infantry, artillery, munition depots, and railways. They have dropped daily 15 tons of bombs and poured thousands of machine-gun rounds on enemy infantry, almost bringing the ground in their attacks. Fires were caused in munition depots and important railways. Observation balloons and numerous aeroplanes were

STOP PRESS TELEGRAM.

HEALTH OF SHANGHAI.

Four Cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

Shanghai, March 30.

Three foreign cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis and one Chinese case have occurred here. There is one foreign death from the disease. The pneumonic plague outlook is favourable, and traffic has been resumed with Hankow.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

STRUGGLE IN FRANCE.

Britain's Appeal to America.

London, March 28.

A message from New York says:—At a dinner of the Lotus Club, Lord Reading read the following message from Mr. Lloyd George to America, dated March 27th:—"We are at a crisis in the war. We are attacked by an immense superiority of German troops and our Army has been forced to retire. The retirement has been carried out methodically before the pressure of a steady succession of fresh German reserves, which are suffering enormous losses. The situation is being faced with splendid courage and resolution. The dogged pluck of the troops has momentarily checked the ceaseless crush of the enemy, and the French have joined in the struggle, but this battle is the greatest and most momentous in the history of the world and is only just beginning. Throughout it, the British and French forces are buoyed up with the knowledge that the great Republic in the West will neglect no effort which can hasten its troops and ships to Europe. In war, time is vital. It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of getting American reinforcements across the Atlantic in the shortest possible space of time."

Decisive Moment Approaching.

London, March 28.

M. Clemenceau, addressing the Army Committee in the Chamber, said that the military situation was crystallising. The enemy effort had slackened during the past few hours, and the moment was near when the British and French reserves would come into action. The battle would assume a new aspect, and there was every reason to hope the enemy would not retain the gains he had secured at such sanguinary cost. M. Clemenceau emphasised the admirable dash of the troops, the unity of the nation, and the importance of reserves and material. He announced that the Government proposed to embody the 1919 Oath during the second fortnight of April. The authors of amendments to this proposal afterwards withdrew their amendments in view of the circumstances.

Long-Range Gunnery.

Paris, March 28.

Twenty-six 380-millimetre shells from a German long-range gun fell in Dunkirk during the week-end. So far there have been five casualties and slight damage.

The Kaiser had telegraphed to Krupp his congratulations on the new gun which is bombarding Paris.

British Labour Loyal.

London, March 28.

The papers continue to urge the Government not to hesitate to take the strongest measures to reinforce the armies in France. Some demand the convocation of Parliament in order to sanction a review of the whole man-power position. It is pointed out that the whole nation has rallied to the Government, and that the spirit of 1914 has been revived. Thousands of munition workers have volunteered to work during the holidays and industrial disputes have settled themselves automatically. Thus the plans for a national strike of engineers for the sixth of April was abandoned yesterday, when the committee appointed at the unofficial conference held in Manchester called off the strike. Furthermore, the committee appealed to all engineers to do their utmost to replace the losses incurred through the enemy offensive. The Minister of Munitions acknowledges the general response of the munition workers to his appeal to forego the Easter holidays.

PROGRESS IN PALESTINE.

London, March 28.

A Palestine official report states:—Our forces eastward of the Jordan were converging yesterday forenoon on Amman. Our mounted troops are within a mile of the town. We captured 200 prisoners. Our aeroplanes heavily bombed the traffic on the Hedsjar railway.

DUTCH SHIPPING COMMISSION.

New York, March 28.

The Nieme Amsterdam, the Dutch liner, has sailed for Holland with the Dutch Shipping Commission comprising a hundred members, and the crews of the Dutch ships taken over by the United States. Germany has given the steamer safe conduct.

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, March 28.

Silver is quoted 45½d. per ounce. There is special selling and the market is dull.

THE LICHNOWSKY MEMORANDUM.

London, March 28.

Further excerpts from Prince Lichnowsky's Memorandum afford additional remarkable confirmation of the fact that Germany desired war. Prince Lichnowsky describes "decisive conversations at Potsdam on July 5th, 1914, in which all agreed that there would be no harm if war with Russia resulted." He was instructed to induce the English Press to be friendly if Austria should give Serbia her death-blow. Prince Lichnowsky emphasised that it would be easy to induce an acceptable admission in a couple of sittings, but he was told by Berlin to work for the localisation of the war. When Germany refused the final British proposal and Sir Edward Grey invited a counter-proposal "Berlin insisted upon war. I could get no other answer from Berlin." The Memorandum describes Mr. Asquith and Sir Edward Grey as pacifists. When Mr. Asquith, on August 2nd, saw that Germany intended war he went to see Prince Lichnowsky. "Although quite calm, tears ran down the Premier's face."

The German papers show that the leakage of the Lichnowsky Memorandum was due to an officer employed in the political department of the General Staff.

LOYALTY GAMES.

For Children's Parties.

A desert party (doublet) is an excellent way of entertaining the children, giving them the fun they so much need without affecting the food supply. Crackers, fruit, amusing games and dancing, no one wants any more. The desert can take place as early as 3 o'clock, though, notwithstanding the lighting orders the children have what they describe as the real party feel when inside a house lights are burning brightly.

Loyalty games are greatly in demand, and delight the children. One, altered to modern demands, was called in Stuart days Questions and Commands. It is a thrilling amusement to-day. A king and queen are chosen by all the children, then these important persons disappear, to return wearing regal robes, supplied from pre-war dressing up cabinets or just with paper crowns. They make the circuit of the room to gay music, possibly some of the stirring songs of to-day, with the choruses everybody knows. They then take their places on raised seats. The king begins the game by calling some boy by name; again merry music, and the one called steps up to the throne.

The king says: "Your king am I!"

The subject kneels and answers: "I am your man."

The king questions: "What service will you do?"

Then comes the important answer: "The best or worst, and all I can."

Those old words have a delightful ring about them; they mean, just set me any task, a great one or humble, and I will do it with all my might and main.

So the King says what his loyal subject shall be. The King and Queen need a Court, important officers of state, soldiers, sailors, flying men, &c. The list of service is a long one in these days and includes all work undertaken to help our beloved country.

The appointment made, the subject goes away to return with some sign of office or service, either designed by himself at the moment or selected from a number of simple things prepared by the givers of the party. Then the Queen calls a girl, the same ceremony is gone through and the appointment made.

Sometimes it entails the necessity for those chosen by the King and Queen to select from the big group of children others to help in carrying out any order. Little by little, everybody in the room is preparing some service, so that when the time comes for the Royal inspection each group will have something splendid to show. Here an ambulance corps, there a group of flying men, further on nurses. . . . It is, indeed, just the game for the moment.

It needs plenty of space and, of course, the King and Queen must be given, then and there, by the fairies the pretty knock of saying just the right thing when the final inspection takes place.

Another loyalty game is just as delightful. It begins with an Observation March to military music, of course. The children are told that here and there about the room are placed some of the minute regimental flags of which most people have a store and also military badges, the animals and floral badges being, of course, most popular. In most towns it is quite easy to hire a number of these, not to buy them outright.

Every child in the room during the Observation March is on the qui vive to see the flag or badge in which he or she has special pride. The march lasts only for a specified time. Then a big black board with delightful coloured chalks is produced. Everybody's name is called in turn, and while a bit of gay music is played each child runs to the corner where something was deposited, names the flag or badge, and then draws it on the board. Not in a great careless picture, occupying too much space, but distinctly and neatly so that there is space for everyone, and it is easy to allot the prize for the best Observation march.

When the flags and badges (real or imitation) are to be given away each child ransoms his or her prize with a brief tale of a

CHURCH SERVICES.

John's Cathedral, Hong Kong.

Easter Day, 31st March, 1918. Holy Communion (7.00 & 7.50 a.m.) Matins (11 a.m.) Responses: Festal. Special Anthems: Humphreys. Psalms: Cooke, Rimbault. Te Deum: Ouleley in E. Jubilate: Goodson. Hymns: 134, 125, 127. God Save the King. N.B.—Psalm 9, verses 1, 2, 9, 10, in unison. Psalm 47, verses 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, in unison. Hymn: 125, verses 1, 4, 6, in unison. Hymn: 127, verses 1, 4, in unison. Holy Communion (12 noon.) Erensong (6 p.m.) Responses: Festal. Psalms: Bartrahill, T. P. Goodson. Magnificat: Goss (7th evening). Nunc Dimittis: Wesley. Hymns: 134, 140, 136. N.B.—Psalm 113, verses 1, 4, 5, in unison. Psalm 114, verses 1, 2, 5, 6, G. P. in unison. Psalm 118, verses 1, 10, 19, 15, 24, 29, in unison. Hymn: 135, verses 1, 4, 6, in unison. Organ Recital on Monday, April 8th at 5.30 p.m.

Union Church, Kennedy Road.

Easter Sunday Services, Morning 11. Hymns: 72, 84, 80, 341. Anthem: "Break forth into Joy." Subject: Fourth Sermon on the Future Life. Evening 6. Hymns: 76, 85, 219, 88, 91. Preacher: Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald.

St. Peter's Church, West Point.

Easter Sunday March 31, 1918. 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Morning Prayer, Holy Communion and Sermon. Preacher: Rev. W. T. Featherstone.

The Gospel Hall, (No. 10 and 11 Pedder Street).

Weekly Services:—Sunday, Breaking of Bread, 11 a.m. Gospel Meeting, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Exposition of Scripture, 8 p.m. Thursday, Bible Class, 8 p.m. Friday, Bible Class for Ladies, 5.30 p.m. Saturday, Prayer Meeting, 8 p.m.

Westleyan Methodist Church, Wanchai.

Sunday Morning Service 10.15 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6.15 p.m.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Home

Arsenal Street.—Sunday Evening, Gospel Services 8 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road.—Mass and Sermon at 10 a.m. followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Roman Catholic Cathedral, Glenally.—Low Masses at 6, 7, and 9.30 a.m. High Mass at 8 a.m. 5.30 p.m.—Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

First Church of Christ Scientist, MacDonnell Road, Sundays, 11.15 a.m. Wednesdays, 5.30 p.m.

brave deed. A story of one of the heroes of this great war or of any national hero of the past. The one to tell the true tale best gets a special prize.

A new game called the Underground Adventure is good fun. A clever story-teller provides himself with a little pile of used envelopes and a pencil, makes the children sit round him, and begins to tell the story of children who started an exploration of cellars! Of course, they come upon thrilling things—unexpected doors, stairs, rooms, tunnels under the Thame, for instance—accomplished deeds of valor during this weird exploration.

But the run of this game is guessing, and sometimes in these days we are glad of a noisy game! The story-teller says, for instance: "They were just about to pass the door of an old wine cellar when they saw—"

The guess means that the children are to supply a guess, one only, as to what was seen. The guess may be shouted or called out in a very loud voice. Meanwhile the story-teller scribbles on the old envelope the real thing seen in the real adventure, and throws it to any child whose name is called. The paper scrap must be caught and held secret until all the guesses have been given. Then, at the story-teller's word, it is opened, and read out. On goes the story, at every turn something happens, and the children supply the pieces. When excitement is at its wildest a check results: if some child is called upon to tell the story as far as he has gone quickly and clearly.

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CANTON NEWS.

Out Canton correspondent writes:—

Lau Wing-ting, Chan Fung-kwau, Tan Ho-ming, and Mok Wing-sai have jointly proclaimed a warning to the people of Kwangtung and Kelung that they must not join Lung Chi-kwang, adding that Lung has usurped the peaceable order of Kwangtung and Kelung. However, the soldiers under the control of Lung are mostly Cantonese and Kwangsi men, and it is therefore urged that those people whose sons or brothers have already joined Lung should persuade them to leave him, otherwise they will be dealt with severely; those officials and soldiers who surrender to the Liang Kwang Government will be given the same positions as they have occupied; those who surrender and bring their arms to the Liang Kwang Government will be rewarded according to the value of the arms; those who join Lung willingly will be dealt with most severely.

Lau Wing-ting has telegraphed the leaders in Canton asking them to send their representatives to Kueishan to hold a Military Conference at his Headquarters in order to pass a resolution to unite the forces on the eastern and western fronts.

Lau Chi-hok, the Third Commander of Expeditionary Forces for attacking Lung Chi-kwang's troops, has arrived with his army in the Young Chun region. Severe fighting will take place there very soon.

A telegram received from Tam Ho-ming, dated the 25th inst., states that owing to the Northern troops advancing towards Changsha in three directions, he has retired with his whole army from Changsha City and Hang Shan, in order to shorten the front line. According to another telegram received from the North, the Southern troops completely retired from Changsha on the 28th. Thereupon the Northern troops advanced on Changsha from Shuang Yam and entered that city at about 8 o'clock without serious opposition.

A SUSSEX EXPERIMENT.

Village Council Run By Women.

Findon, a village in Sussex, not far from Worthing, has set an example to the rest of rural England by the formation of a women's village council. This organisation has sprung into life after an inquiry held as to the need of new cottages for the labouring population of Findon. The council claims that Findon requires 30 new cottages for its growing population, which to some extent feels the nearness of Worthing. The president of the women's village council is a working woman, and the subjects already under discussion are housing, infant welfare, and education. The best of the cottage women have joined; the proceeds of public meetings is being sent; neighbours are encouraged, and a temper shop in discussion, with the result that resolutions sent to local authorities have been treated with respect which the women have never received as private individuals.

The council has, under the guidance of a London surveyor, got out an excellent form of inquiry for the aided cottages, and it is now circulating the Mothers' Union with a view of starting councils in all the villages. Miss P. D. Taylor of "The Life of Father Tyrrell" is starting a women's village council at Brighton (Sussex). The council of the Women's Union states, "In a general and building trades class will be the first to be released from demoralisation. In the Army ranks labourers have had more consideration than ever before. The working men are provided with clubs and general amusements. They are not allowed to be idle, and to be idle is to be demoralised. The reason of this is that the civil liberties of the working man are being taken away. The millions of the working man are being taken away. The millions of the working man are being taken away."

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